Agency Report – Invasive Plants



FICMNEW Planning Retreat



October 7, 2015 Washington DC (and via remote access)



USGS Structure (who does what and when)

- 3 mission areas deal with invasive plants:
 - Ecosystems
 - Core Science Systems
 - Water
- Overall Mission: serve the nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the earth
- Scope:
 As a non-regulatory agency, provide needed science support to other DOI and federal agencies



Cyndy Kolar







Top Four things for next 5 years with invasive plants

Improve decision making for managing invasive plants

(FL) Adaptive – Phragmites Mgmt - sagesteppe (Great Basin)

potential range or range shifts

• FORT and Hawaii

Restoration, especially after application of control efforts

• Work on cheatgrass

Data aggregation for maps and models

• Taxonomy, distribution, & climate change effects

Remote sensing to document spp. presence or condition

• Work on tamarisk & buffelgrass

Forecasting

• Structured – Melaleuca



Major partners

















Authorities / Mandates

• Because we are non-regulatory, there are no specific authorities or mandates that authorize us to act, beyond Executive Order 13112







Web links about the programs

- Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center: Invasive Annual Grasses http://fresc.usgs.gov/research/researchPage.aspx?Research_Page_ID=131
- Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center: Fire Restoration http://fresc.usgs.gov/research/researchPage.aspx?Research Page ID=129
- Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center: Invasive Plant Assessments http://www.usgs.gov/ecosystems/pierc/invasive-plants.html
- Great lakes Science Center: Phragmites
 http://www.glsc.usgs.gov/keywords/phragmites
- Fort Collins Science Center: Tamarisk

 https://www.fort.usgs.gov/science/keyword/tamarisk-(Tamarix-spp)